MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 JULY 1982

Lebanon

PLO Position, Diplomatic Efforts -- After meeting Fatah Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir, former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam announced that the PLO leaders are ready to leave Beirut, according to Maj Sa'd Haddad's Voice of Hope radio. Salam said the problem now is where and when they should go. However, Beirut radio subsequently cited a WAFA announcement that the Palestinian Resistance does not intend to leave Lebanon because going to one of the Arab states conniving with the Israeli-U.S. alliance means death. The PLO will not surrender, WAFA said, but there will be no battles in Beirut if the Palestinians attain an honorable solution. Meanwhile, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan informed U.S. envoy Philip Habib that the PLO still insists on maintaining both a political and military presence in Lebanon, Voice of Lebanon radio reported citing informed sources. The PLO agrees to the residual Palestinian force being under the control of the Lebanese Army, the radio said, but wants it to enjoy sovereignty inside the Palestinian camps. Noting that Habib showed "reservations" about these demands, the radio said the cease-fire would continue for 48 hours until the Israeli Government reaches a decision in light of new information from Washington. According to Beirut radio, the United States insists that the cease-fire continue in order to give an opportunity for political efforts. The radio also noted that Prime Minister al-Wazzan continued his contacts with Lebanese and Palestinian leaders during 30 June. Informed circles expect progress to be made on 1 July, the radio said, but they also expressed anxiety that the hard-line stands of the non-Lebanese parties in Lebanon will produce negative results.

President Ilyas Sarkis sent a message to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni urging him to help save Beirut from occupation and devastation, Beirut radio noted. Sarkis also sent a message to his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Khamene'i that stressed the "important and effective role" Iran can play in liberating Beirut, according to Tehran radio. Meanwhile, AFP reported that Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt called for the disarmament of all of Beirut and the deployment of a multinational force in the city.

Israeli Position -- There has been no progress on Israel's demand that all the "terrorists" leave Beirut, according to reliable sources cited by Jerusalem radio. Government sources cited by IDF radio stated that the time factor has significance and if it transpires that the PLO does not intend to leave Beirut, Israel will have to reconsider its moves. According to a military source cited by Jerusalem television, the "terrorists" are drawing out the political negotiations in order to establish an alternative command headquarters once Beirut is evacuated, possibly in Tripoli since the Syrians are in control there. Informed sources cited by HA'ARETZ said there are signs of Israel's readiness to accept a settlement whereby the PLO's leaders leave Beirut and the organization's forces remain in the city. According to IDF radio, political sources confirmed that after a settlement is achieved in Beirut and the PLO leaves, Israel will be ready to consider a request by the Lebanese Government, if one is made, to withdraw a little further from Beirut. A senior Israeli policymaker cited by the Jerusalem POST said that once the PLO has been removed from Lebanon new options will open up including the possibility of ensuring the security of the 45-km zone north of Israel without the need for a multinational force. Commenting on the Egyptian proposal to let the PLO, once disarmed, set up a government-in-exile in Cairo, the policymaker said this would contravene the Camp David agreement since such an arrangement would imply a Palestinian state.

Meanwhile, the Israeli Cabinet met for 2 hours to discuss the efforts being made to remove the "terrorists" and expressed the hope that it will be possible to drive them out with the help of contacts made by the United States, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio added that the Cabinet will receive a report on U.S. efforts to remove the "terrorists" when it convenes on 2 July. IDF radio reported that Israel is asking the United States to step up pressure in Beirut in order to attain results.

In another development, Israel received an urgent message from Secretary of State Alexander Haig which detailed the U.S. position regarding a future settlement in Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio said the nine-point message indicates that the United States supports Israel's major positions regarding a settlement. It added that the only point Israel rejects is the recommendation that if the Lebanese Government agrees to a political framework for the Palestinians in Lebanon the United States will not oppose this.

Cease-Fire, Military Situation — Although the cease-fire was generally maintained, Phalangist and Syrian units exchanged fire in the central sector, Jerusalem radio reported. AFP said the Phalangists also clashed with Druze villagers in the mountains, causing nine deaths. Senior IDF commanders intervened to prevent the Phalangists attacking the Druze, according to Jerusalem television. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio noted that the Syrians reinforced their positions on the Beirut-Damascus road. The Syrians subsequently fired SAM's at Israeli warplanes, according to a Voice of Lebanon report early on 1 July.

Saudi Denial, Talks With Husayn — A Saudi spokesman denied reports that Saudi Arabia has suggested evacuating PLO fighters from west Beirut to any place of their choice, SPA reported. In At-Ta'if, King Fahd discussed the Lebanese crisis with visiting Jordanian King Husayn, according to another SPA report. Amman radio said the two sides stressed the need to mobilize all effective Arab resources against the Israeli offensive.

Reagan-Mubarak Message, Ghali Statement — President Husni Mubarak received the U.S. ambassador who delivered an urgent message on the Beirut situation from President Ronald Reagan, Cairo radio noted. In France, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali stressed that while Egypt is ready to offer a base for a provisional Palestinian government-in-exile, such a body could pursue only political and diplomatic activity from Cairo and not military activity, because Egypt intends to respect the peace treaty with Israel.

Arab League Meeting, Libyan Reaction — An Arab League ministerial committee set up by the emergency conference of Arab foreign ministers held two sessions under the chairmanship of Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal to devise measures to confront the Israeli invasion and pave the way for an Arab summit, SPA reported. Al-Faysal said the deliberations during the meetings were "very positive" and noted that certain specific ideas were broached. Meanwhile, in a message to Arab leaders carried by JANA, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi called the Arab foreign ministers emergency conference on Lebanon a cowardly, escapist process" and declared that what is required, with or without a summit, is to force the Israelis to withdraw from Lebanon.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraq categorically denied an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement alleging that Iraqi forces still occupy strategic positions in Iran and affirmed that all Iraqi forces have completely withdrawn from all their positions in the country, according to a Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by INA. The spokesman announced that the Iraqi Government calls for the formation of forces from either the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement or the Islamic Conference Organization to be stationed on the Iran-Iraq border to ensure the cease-fire. He added that Iran's rejection of this proposal would mean it is determined to continue the war despite the fact "its false pretexts are falling one after another."

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KARMAL CHAIRS REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL SESSION

LD01^646 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 1 Jul 82

[Text] Kabul, 30 Jun (BAKHTAR) -- A session of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA was held here on June 29 under the chairmanship of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, president of the Revolutionary Council and president of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

Babrak Karmal presented at the session a detailed report on the official and friendly visit of the high level party and state delegation of the DRA to the fraternal German Democratic Republic.

The report was endorsed by the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council.

The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council also made a high assessment of the results of the discussions and meetings held between the Afghan delegation headed by Babrak Karmal and the delegation of the GDR headed by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and president of the State Council of GDR, the signing of an agreement on friendship and cooperation between the DRA and GDR and the other documents which initiated a new and higher stage in the relations between the two countries, states and peoples.

Similarly, the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA highly appreciated the warm and sincere welcome accorded by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the state and the people of GDR to the high-level Afghan party and state delegation. The Presidium also expressed its sincere appreciation of all-sided and profound support of the state and people of the German Democratic Republic to the April Revolution and the struggle of the PDPA, state and the people of Afghanistan against reaction, imperialism and hegemonism.

The Presidium also took necessary decisions on a number of other issues of the agenda.

The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council also discussed and endorsed the draft of law on the rights and privileges of the wounded, crippled and disabled persons and the survivors of the martyrs. This law was already prepared at the initiative of the Central Committee of the PDPA with the cooperation of the various ministries of the DRA and was approved by the Council of Ministers.

This law has envisaged the method of free treatment, the payment of the salary and the rights of the disabled and crippled persons, wounded men as well as the rights and the privileges of the survivors of the martyrs of revolution including officers, soldiers, civil servants, professional employees of the party and social organistations, and the groups of volunteers, groups of resistance and defenders of the revolution.

The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council also adopted a decree on the arrangement of the activities of border militia units and the regulations related to them which anticipate the formation of militia units, their rights and duties, supplies and the duties of the state organs with regard to these units.

The Presidium also deliberated on the report of activities of the commission for coordination and study of the peoples views and proposals concerning the drafting of the law of local organs of the state power and administration and took necessary decisions.

In this session a number of draft laws, among them the law of struggle with the events in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the law of pharmacies, the law of generic medicines, the law of collection of stamp duties, regulation of making use of wireless communication units, addendums number six and seven of the law of state officials, addendum to the labour statute of national industrial establishments, addendum number two of the law of land ownership and sales, addendum number two of the monetary and banking law, were also deliberated and adopted.

The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council also approved a number of issues pertaining to the setup, promotion and appointments in the judiciary, police and armed forces.

Similarly, the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council deliberated and approved a set of proposals with regard to the remission and mitigation of punishments and approval of decisions of courts of the DRA in accord with the items 43 and 58 of the fundamental principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

DOST RETURNS FROM HAVANA, GENEVA TRIP 30 JUNE

LD301834 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Text] Shah Mohammad Dost, DRA minister of foreign affairs, and the delegation accompanying him returned to Kabul today after participating in the Coordinating Bureau of the nonaligned countries in Havana and the second special UN session on disarmament. He also attended the meeting between the DRA and Pakistan on the situation in Afghanistan which was held in Geneva through the efforts of Diego Cordovez, representative of the UN secretary general.

At Kabul airport he was welcomed by Mohammad Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce; Sakhi Danishjo, deputy minister of foreign affairs; and some high-ranking personnel of the ministry.

DANESH RETURNS FROM PRAGUE, COMMENTS ON TALKS

LD010606 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0417 GMT 1 Jul 82

[Text] Kabul, June 30, BAKHTAR -- Engineer Mohammad Esma'il Danesh, alternate member of Politburo of PDPA CC and minister of mines and industries, returned from Prague today after participation at the head of an Afghan delegation in the commission meeting of the joint DRA-CSSR for economic, commercial, scientific and technical cooperation.

Engineer Danesh said that decisions were made in this meeting to further develop such cooperation between the two countries.

The minister of mines and industries said that agreements on trade and payments between the DRA and CSSR for the coming five years were signed according to which not only the trade volume between the two countries will further expand but the trade and payments will be better arranged to the benefit of both countries.

He added that the guidelines of the joint commission for economic, commercial, scientific and technical cooperation which will in fact be a guide of the commission's future work was also signed by the heads of the delegations.

According to the protocol of the first meeting of the commission, the CSSR state will give suitable loans to the DRA in the task of development of coal mines, cement production and electric energy, he said.

It was also agreed that the question of tri-partite agreements with regard to making use of the surplus of trade balance of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union will be further studied and ways of its implementation will be sought.

DEFENSE ALLOCATIONS RISE BY 25 PERCENT

BK010611 Hong Kong AFP in English 0002 GMT 1 Jul 82

[Text] Dacca, June 30 (AFP) — The Government of Bangladesh today announced a new budget for the coming fiscal year beginning tomorrow, visualising a six percent growth rate in gross domestic product (GDP).

Finance Minister A.M.A Muhith, who announced the budget today, also disclosed a series of new tax measures aimed at mobilising increased domestic resources to finance a new 27,000 million taka (about 1,350 million dollars) annual development programme (ADP) launched simultaneously.

The new tax measures would also yield an additional 60 million dollars in revenue.

He, however, regretted that the growth of GDP for the current year was practically zero as against the targetted 7 percent.

The main thrust of the first budget of the military government of General Ershad is to drastically reduce the subsidies on sensitive items like fuel oil, electricity, gas and food items under rationing.

The new budget has allocated some 3,826 million taka (about 190 million dollars) in the defence sector as against the current year's allocation of 3,065 million taka (about 150 million dollars). This leads to the raising of defence allocations by about 25 percent.

The new budget was announced at a function at Dacca's old Parliament house in Tejgaon. Chief Martial Law Administrator General Ershad presided over the function which was also attended by ministers, diplomats and other government officials.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER RETURNS FROM TALKS IN DELHI

BK300527 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Excerpt] Agriculture Minister A.Z.M. Obaidullah Khan has said a framework based on common approach is expected to be arrived at between Bangladesh and India on the sharing of the Ganges waters at Farakka and augmenting of the lean season flow of the river before November next.

He was speaking at a news conference at the National Press Club yesterday evening on his return home from New Delhi after leading an 11-member delegation to the Bangladesh-India talks on the sharing of the Ganges waters and the augmenting of its flow during the dry season. He said there is a political will on both sides to solve the problem on a mutually acceptable basis. Further efforts will continue toward arriving at a solution of the problem and, if required, discussions at the highest political level may be held between the two governments.

The agriculture minister said that a positive atmosphere has been created between the two sides and he hopes that such an atmosphere will continue till we arrive at a solution. He also said that the next ministerial-level meeting would be held in August in Dacca.

BRIEFS

IDB AGREEMENT -- The Islamic Development Bank today signed an agreement in Jidda. Under the agreement the bank will finance the import of raw cotton from Pakistan to Bangladesh worth $3,176,000. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1750 GMT 30 Jun 82 GF]

YAQUB KHAN ON GENEVA TRILATERAL AFGHAN TALKS

BK010419 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that as a result of the indirect discussions in Geneva on the Afghanistan crisis, we have moved forward toward an evolution of the structure and content of a comprehensive solution.

Addressing a news conference in Islamabad this afternoon, he said the Geneva talks could be described as fairly satisfactory. He said that the personal representative of the UN secretary general, Cordovez, had an opportunity to discuss substantive issues with the parties concerned and arrived at a clearer and more precise understanding for resolving them. Essential elements in Pakistan's approach to Afghanistan were withdrawal of foreign forces and voluntary return of the Afghan refugees to their homeland.

The foreign minister said that with these objectives in mind, we maintained our constructive attitude toward other measures such as guarantees for nonintervention. He added that the Geneva talks would be followed up with further consultations at the United Nations during the next session of the General Assembly. Besides that, the issue would also be discussed during Cordovez's next visit to Islamabad, Kabul and Tehran this year.

He said there has been no change in Pakistan's fundamental position with regard to the Afghanistan crisis. In reply to a question about a reported statement by Cordovez on concessions by Pakistan for the solution of this problem, Yaqub Khan said it was premature to talk of any concessions at this preliminary stage of discussions.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that the leadership of Afghan refugees was being kept informed and their views ascertained at each stage of negotiations. In reply to a question whether the Soviet Union would also be associated, the foreign minister said at this moment talks were confined to the trilateral level. However, Pakistan was in touch with the Soviet Union on this subject on a bilateral basis, but the question of participation by the Soviet Union was not being mooted. The foreign minister made it clear that the kind of solution to the Afghanistan crisis that we were seeking would not be according to the wishes of any other countries.

Referring to the Lebanese situation, the foreign minister said that the Pakistani Government is fully aware of the indignation and anxiety among the people of Pakistan over Israel's barbaric invasion of Lebanon. Besides condemnation by the president and the Advisory Council, a number of measures have been taken which prove that our solidarity with the Palestinians is not confined to words alone.

6 KILLED, 18 WOUNDED BY POLICE IN PESHAWAR

BK010657 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Jul 82

[Text] A pressnote issued in Peshawar said that a crowd gathered at Parachinar in the Korram Agency on Tuesday [29 June] and moved toward the office of the political agent to protest disruptions in the electricity supply.

While the political agent was addressing the crowd, some miscreants in the crowd fired at the political agent, wounding him in the neck. Thereafter, the security forces had to resort to firing to control the unruly crowd, in which 6 persons were killed and 18 wounded. Korram Agency's political agent, Taj Mohammad Khan, who was seriously wounded, was rushed to the C.M.H. Rawalpindi Hospital for treatment. The pressnote said that the security forces got control over the situation immediately and there has been no additional reports of any untoward incidents. An inquiry into the incident has been ordered.

KHAMENE'I RECEIVES SARKIS MESSAGE FROM ENVOY

LD301758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Text] The Lebanese ambassador in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Fu'ad at-Turk, was received by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i this morning and presented two separate messages to him from the president of Lebanon. One of the messages was for Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to the Central News Unit, the message from the Lebanese president to the Islamic president of Iran said: My aim in sending this message is to emphasize the effective and important role that you and the Islamic Republic of Iran can play in the liberation of Beirut and the neutralization of the recent conspiracy hatched against us.

During this meeting, Mr Khamene'i made some remarks and while referring to the importance of the problem of Lebanon and the expelled Palestinians, he said that for the Islamic and Arab world it is one of the greatest tragedies to witness the merciless and frightful partition of Lebanon and the great conspiracy of disarming the Palestinians in order to remove them from the scene of struggle.

While emphasizing resistance against these conspiracies, the president stated: For our part, despite our engagement in the war with Saddam's mercenaries, we have dispatched our combatants to Syria in order to participate in the war and to fight against the Zionist regime. We expected other Islamic countries to take similar steps. But unfortunately they have not taken the slightest measure.

Mr Khamene'i also said: We feel that a great conspiracy is in the process of being implemented. The plotters are not the United States and Zionism alone.

The president, referring to the consequences of the tragedy of the partition of Lebanon and the goals of the United States and Zionism in the region and emphasizing once again the military and political support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the Palestinians and the oppressed Muslims of south Lebanon, addressed the ambassador of Lebanon in our country and said: If Lebanon is partitioned, history will pass the same judgment on all of us and the Lebanese themselves will not be immune from this judgment.

Mr Khamene'i added: If the people of Palestine and Lebanon do not resist the conspiracy which is trying to partition Lebanon and the conspiracy which is hatched on the fate of the Palestinians, then no one can help you. If the governments of the region and the Arabs do not at least show their displeasure to the United States in order to help to foil this tragic conspiracy, it will be impossible to achieve the goal: Unfortunately, they will not even show their displeasure at last. But we are certain that this conspiracy and the hatching of this treachery will be neutralized eventually by the Muslims and the Arabs who believe in Arab honor and humanity.

MUSAVI ON WAR, LEBANON, ISLAMIC SOCIETIES

GF301510 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Interview granted by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi to unidentified radio, television and press correspondents on 30 June -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. According to the imam's decree and while our forces are preparing to deal their final blows against the body of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime, we are witnessing a number of abominable acts such as the escape of Iraqis from the occupied parts of our country.

The imperialist and Zionist propaganda machinery is trying to stop us from obtaining our just rights. What is the position of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and what decisions have been taken in this regard?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As you mentioned, it is a case of escape and not retreat, in spite of a propaganda campaign claiming that this is a retreat for peace. A study of the retreat shows that the intent of Iraq and the regime of Saddam is to save its remaining forces from our forces -- our brave combatant forces -- and also to take the opportunity to (?reestablish the) political power of Saddam.

We notice that the retreat coincides with the 9th Congress of the Iraqi Ba'thists and the subsequent changes in the Iraqi Government and the reelection of Saddam. If we put these together with the official propaganda efforts inside Iraq to stabilize the Ba'thist regime, we see that all of this is taking place so this mini-Satan can gather himself back together and continue his plots.

What matters to us is that we will not withdraw our conditions. Our conditions have not changed either at the time when the childish dreams of Saddam looked like reality to public opinion or now that this regime has suffered a great defeat. We will maintain our position until these conditions are met.

[Question] Mr Musavi, the aggressions of the Zionist regime in Lebanon continue to occur as forcefully as before. A large number of Muslims are bloodied there daily. However, we hear conflicting reports on this subject, and the facts indicate that some Palestinian leaders are prepared for collusion [words indistinct]. Considering that our forces are stationed there and that the imam has decreed that the Iran-Iraq war has priority over the war in Lebanon, please tell us about the situation of our forces and how you perceive (?the present situation)?

[Answer] The situation in Lebanon is currently very complex. When the war started, naturally the Zionists and imperialists -- the United States and Israel -- were not just pursuing one goal. One of their main goals was to maintain the regime of Saddam and halt the crumbling of the foundations of the rule of Saddam in the area.

On the other hand, the matter of Israeli expansionism has been obvious ever since the inauspicious and illegitimate birth of this nation in the hands of the superpowers. In my opinion, the matter of aggression against southern Lebanon also involves obtaining land. However, if we assume that we will see parts of southern Lebanon in the hands of Israel in the future -- when the Israeli plunderers are colonizing it -- then we [will see] attempts in the rest of Lebanon to form an imperialist and Zionist puppet government with the power in the hands of the Phalangists -- who are Christian. The Israeli Government will try to use the feelings of the Christian world in this respect.

The Arab reactionaries have contributed the most to Israel in this respect. When at the moment of attack we should see immense moves among the Muslim nations to help the Palestinian and the Syrian fighting forces, we only see a number of empty slogans and no positive moves by (?these countries). Naturally, the move by our forces to Syria in order to help their forces and those of the Palestinians has a revealing role in this respect. They thus put all such powers under severe pressure, and we can see its results right now in the world of Islam and especially in the Arab nations. They can see that a country which is very far away geographically has sent forces, whereas other countries have declined to do so.

The political results of this matter will be very precious in the future for us, the Islamic revolution and all the Muslims since we have revealed the reactionary and imperialist puppet [nature] of such governments among their nations. On the other hand, the arrival of our forces there is a (?show of) the strong position of our nation in the fight against Israel under favorable conditions.

Naturally, the forces we have sent there -- should the will to fight Israel expand -- will be in the vanguard if other countries participate in the war. Should the war occur, then the dispatch of forces can expand. However, so long as conditions remain like this, that is to say, with the Arab reactionary countries committing treachery against the ideals of the Palestinian nation, and when the war has taken a second-place position compared to political solutions, then naturally we will be reevaluating the matter of dispatching our forces. Naturally we will be thinking more of the shining idea of the imam of the nation, which is to find a way to fight Israel through Iraq and go to the aid of our Syrian brothers. This is also the belief of our Libyan and Syrian brothers so far.

[Question] Every place the Iraqis occupied was devastated, and the last example of such treatment is Qasr-e Shirin. After such incidents it seems that the Iraqi regime is not ready to pay war reparations to the Islamic Republic. What is your opinion regarding receiving war reparations for the losses suffered by our state at the hands of the aggressors?

[Answer] The Iraqis, as we know, came and captured a vast tract of our territory and were not prepared to give up a single inch of that territory. In fact, they had plans to capture the whole of Abadan. The Foreign Ministry has documents published by the Information Department of Iraq which show Khuzestan as Arabistan and labels the provinces of Hormozgan and Bushehr as northern Arab emirates. They give their own names to every feature and place. [Words indistinct] however, due to the determination of our nation, with the help of the army, the popular forces and general mobilization, all the wishes of the enemy were thwarted and the enemy was forced to retreat step by step.

It is natural that in this regard as well we are facing a problem. Because 1 month before the Jerusalem Operation [bayt al-moqaddas], I recall that one of the mercenary Iraqi magazines, AD-DUSTUR, announced that it wanted to hold a recitation of poetry in Qasr-e Shirin and Khorramshahr. They wanted to hold a poets' celebration. Not unlike the mad emperor of Rome who set fire to Rome so he could sit on the hill and watch the burning of the city, they wanted to watch the burning of the big city and watch the plight of its oppressed inhabitants and then burst into a song of passion.

On this occasion I would like to avail myself of the opportunity to ask my dear friends, the brave, and fighting friends, to continue their zeal and fervor in the face of the enemy and understand that our struggle has not reached its end. The struggle still needs their presence until our nation has received its dues from the enemy. These dues which we are claiming may not be of material value. However, they have symbolic (?value) and will have a symbolic nature and certainly help the Islamic revolution in the region to show that this war is certainly a war for Islam.

[Question] In view of the fact that Israel has plans to capture (?Beirut) and massacre the Palestinian people, is there any solution apart from the use of force which could prove immediately effective in solving the present problem?

[Answer] The only acceptable solution is certainly the use of arms against Israel. However, when we look at this problem from the perspective of our own country, our geographical situation, and the differences between our outlook and that of the parties who are at present in direct conflict with Israel, we find that these parties consider our plans as nearly impossible.

The fact is that whatever intentions we had expressed regarding the matter, we have been facing a wide variety of problems.

First of all, what is needed is a force [that will take on Israel], that will fight along with the forces of other Islamic countries and that will be effective in fighting against Israel. However, raising such forces in isolation is not possible for us. We had planned for a land passage for our forces to open up so we could independently send help for our fighting brothers in Syria and Palestine, defeat Israel, stop its attack, and provide the basis for the final independence of dear Jerusalem itself. However, none of the conditions conducive to this plan is available to us at present. However, as I see the future, whatever apparently successful step Israel takes toward its victory is in fact a step toward its own destruction.

This recent action by Israel has caused a great wave of opposition and alert among the Islamic nations and is certainly going to affect the future of the states attached to America [words indistinct]. We should understand that the existence of Israel is founded on aggression. It cannot do anything without thinking of attack or aggression. And even is it gives up such thinking, its end is still nearer. (?We also see) that the seeds of its destruction are in this thinking, as there is a great wave of indignation among the Muslims of the world. The recapture of lands under Zionism would mean forming an opposing force made up of millions of Muslims who will rise in war against aggressive Israel and will destroy not only Israel, but American imperialism along with it.

[Question] What shape will the Islamic societies take in regard to the state budget? Will they take the shape of a collective organization with a common center? And also, what would the limits of interference by the Islamic societies be in executive matters?

[Answer] The Islamic societies, as I have said before, have been the vanguards of the revolution in various departments and have played a great role in the revolutionary evolution of the various departments. They served as the eyes and ears of the governments of martyr Raja'i and other governments (?appointed) by the imam and, in fact, it was due to these Islamic societies that the revolution extended into the departments of administration.

The changes in the departments that were brought about by the Islamic societies were in fact (?basic) and were changes toward progress and perfection. The Islamic societies also played a major role in preventing plots. Certainly, in view of their past services and the role which they are playing even today, these societies have the strong backing of the government. In fact, I think that these societies should persevere as a revolutionary nucleus and they should have enthusiasm and zeal so that they can continue to serve the machinery of the Islamic Republic and play a major role in the evolution of the state. On the other hand, they should not actually interfere in executive matters. As regards executive matters, the members of the Islamic societies should understand that a minister of an official instead of being responsible to the Islamic societies or their members among his own staff, is responsible to the Majlis and the government. Certainly the members of the Islamic societies should report any illegal or irregular happenings within the departments. While they must take note of such happenings, their role should be confined to the (?watching) of officials. I think that as the imam of the nation has specifically stated regarding this matter, the Islamic societies should not interfere in executive matters. The government must also adhere to this sacred and correct directive, and I believe that the Islamic societies should also cooperate.

As prime minister and from the point of view of collective responsibility, I believe that the prime minister should coordinate with the ministries and play a central role, and if the Islamic societies have any complaints regarding the problems that they may be facing, they should convey their view regarding them and take for granted that we are their sympathetic brothers who want to solve their problems, remove their doubts, and help remove any frictions and differences that may exist.

Meanwhile, the Interior Ministry is following up the matter in its official recommendations and regulations, and when these reach the Cabinet, it is expected that some kind of order will be restored regarding the Islamic societies. However, there are no plans as yet to collect the Islamic societies into a centralized organization or incorporate them into the government, and no such decision has been taken. I think that they would be more useful in their present unfettered state. [Words indistinct] that they would remain related to their religious function. [Words indistinct] that in fact they should reorient themselves toward their correct role, play their correct part, and continue as before to play an effective role in the development and progress of our revolution.

RECENT CHANGES IN IRAQI GOVERNMENT VIEWED

GF300810 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0420 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The rulers of Iraq have [words indistinct] made widescale changes in the government's main posts with every debacle their miserable regime is subjected to achieve two primary goals: first, to exploit the chance to liquidate unwanted party and government elements and, second, to imply to the party cadres and to the supporters that those who have been included in the lists of liquidation are responsible for the debacle.

Since the agent of imperialism, Saddam, assumed power in Baghdad, we notice that this phenomenon is [words indistinct] and usual. [Words indistinct] on a horrible policy this agent is using even with his loyal colleagues. In his first days of power, he unleashed the sword of his malice and fears against the first group of his close colleagues such as [name indistinct]. [Words indistinct] obstructs a massive explosion against the authorities of evil ruling with force and terrorism. What made the (?defeat) more bitter is Saddam Husayn's assumption of power after Al-Bakr was forcibly removed. At that time, Saddam found himself steering aimlessly without knowing what the future was holding for him as a result of his adventure of forcibly assuming power.

Some senior officers were considering revenge for this act, which they considered to be a disgrace to the military honor which they adhered to; it is not reasonable to put up with the rule of a rash person who has no relationship whatsoever with the army. He is carrying military insignias on his shoulders without paying the least attention to military ranks.

This vulgarity with which Saddam began his rule made a big hole in the regime. This hole corresponded with the Iraqi people's uprising in their struggle, a thing which tightened the siege around the new leadership. This made Saddam deal his exacting blow to the Muhammad 'Ayish group, making it the first scapegoat for the new leadership. By doing so, Saddam wanted to strike terror and trepidation into the hearts of those who grumble or attempt a military coup or something of this kind. He also wanted to show the Iraqi people that the new ruler is like Al-Hajjaj [ruler of Iraq during the Umayyid caliphate] and (Hulagu) [Mongolian invader of Iraq in the 11th century]. Woe to everyone who thinks of this. Thus Saddam came to power with the sword, crushing all comradeship and party considerations.

He came with a sword dripping with blood. He came with a malicious and thirsty heart than can only be extinguished with blood. Thus, he came to power and used the sword of his tyranny against the people and against his friends. He ruled Iraq, carrying the sword in his hand and malice in his heart. From time to time, he found himself and new bloods spilt [words indistinct] without any hesitation. One day in September this agent launched his treacherous attack against the Islamic Republic of Iran with a bitter conviction that he would be able to liquidate the Islamic revolution just as he liquidated the sons of the Iraqi people.

A short time afterward, Saddam felt weak and felt the dilemma in which he found himself after his criminal attempt failed and after the tool of his aggression turned against him. During the war, he was exhausted, tense and afraid. He found himself in front of a dark ocean he must cross without knowing how to swim. Many fears drove him to carry out known childish acts [words indistinct] the Iraqi people. There were many fears of various sources and of various forms. He feared that those who are around him might exploit his hard times to avenge the blood which he unjustifiably spilt. He used to talk to himself of a military coup which one of his close colleagues might carry out. He feared everything except God, whom he never obeyed during his life.

These fears made him mistrust even himself; he never trusted anyone except the At-Tikritis from his tribe and his close relatives, such as (Adnan Talfah), (Mezhan) and Barazan. Recent victories by the valiant soldiers of Islam increased his fears; he quickly went to one of the secret camps to seek refuge with his relatives and the members of his tribe. After the storm calmed down, he left his hiding place and decided to put an end to some of his fears. He invited the party pillars to hold their congress and to hold elections to expel some mistrusted persons, (?such as) Tayih 'Abd al-Karim and Tahir Tawfiq, and to replace them with members of his tribe and his city, Tikrit.

Thus, Saddam achieved what he wanted. After announcing the dismissal of people named on the party lists, he expelled them from the ministers lists in preparation for their eventual physical liquidation.

Thus, Saddam did what he wanted. He expelled some mistrusted elements and replaced them with some of his close elements, thus confirming that the Ba'th Party is no more than a party that assembles the At-Tikritis in the ring of the conflict with the Iraqi masses.

However, in doing so, Saddam could not convince the people that these elements are behind the military defeat which hit him after the successive blows the Islamic forces have dealt to the aggressive invading forces. Nor could he make the Iraqi people think that his party incompetence was actually the incompetence of some other people. The Iraqi people know the truth and know that Saddam, who launched aggression against the Muslim people in Iran at his masters' orders, is responsible for the military defeat, the collapse of the Iraqi Army in this war and for the tens of thousands of dead Iraqi soldiers, and that he will be eventually tried by just courts and receive the punishment for his heinous act. This is the Iraqi people's word about this agent tyrant.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 960

LD302026 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Communique No 960 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of Allah, the most exalted. During the past 24 hours in the western sector of the country, the forces of Islam with their artillery fire [word indistinct] Iraqi positions and destroyed four military vehicles, two light and heavy weaponry entrenches and two of the enemy mortar launchers. In this process a number of other enemy vehicles sustained damages.

The Islamic combatants stationed in the western fronts also with the application of fire over the positions of the Saddam's force on the other side of the borders, destroyed one 82-mm mortar launcher and several logistic sites. Ten of the Iraqi forces were injured in this combat and a number of them were killed.

In southern fronts of the country the exchange of fire continued and during the past 24 hours with the fire of the Islamic forces six individual and group bunkers of the aggressor forces of Iraq were destroyed and a number of their personnel were killed.

During the past 24 hours also due to fire of the long-range gunnery of the Saddam's army on the residential areas of Khorramshahr and Abadan one civilian was martyred [and] 25 others were wounded.

Two Iraqi Muslim soldiers last Monday sought asylum with the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran while entering Iran through the western borders.

Further Report

LD302340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Text] By releasing its 960th communique the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran has revealed the aggression and crimes committed by the defeated forces of Saddam in several of Iran's border towns. This is despite the vain claims of the mercenary Iraqi regime to the effect that it has withdrawn its forces from our country. The communique says that military tactics provide for the launching of some operations on the pretext of retreat either for avoiding elimination or for achieving other aims, and that the criminal Saddam in his shameful defeat has repeatedly resorted to this tactic [words indistinct].

The Central News Unit reports that Communique No 960 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran also says:

In the last 24 hours, as a result of the mercenary Saddamists' fire, 1 of our dear compatriots was martyred in Abadan and another 25 were injured in Khorramshahr and Abadan.

As a result of the exchanges of fire on the western fronts and following our forces' powerful fire in the Mehran region, 2 enemy vehicles, 10 light- and heavy-weaponry trenches and 2 mortars were destroyed.

On other western fronts, too, several trenches and two vehicles belonging to the Saddamist forces were destroyed, and another two vehicles were damaged. By maintaining their superiority on the Marivan front, our combatants silenced the aggressor enemy fire in the (Tutman) region.

The report says that in the Paveh region the Islamic combatants fired with artillery on the aggressor enemy's positions and fortifications in the regions of [words indistinct] succeeded in destroying 1 82-mm mortar and several supply depots belonging to the Saddamist forces and in injuring 10 of the Iraqi forces.

Sporadic exchanges of fire continued on several southern fronts, and the gendarmerie valiants on the Khorramshahr front destroyed six foxholes and trenches belonging to the aggressor Saddam's forces and killed several Iraqis.

Meanwhile, according to the Central News Unit, as a result of the mercenary Ba'thist artillery fire today on the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr, 29 of our dear compatriots were injured and another 8 were martyred.

TEHRAN REPORTS CONTINUED FIGHTING IN BORDER AREAS

LD301716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Text] IRNA reports that despite Saddam's empty claims of complete withdrawal from our Islamic homeland, a fierce clash occurred yesterday between one of our patrol units and the enemy forces in (Babahadi) region, northeast of Qasr-e Shirin, 5 km from the border. During this clash 16 enemy personnel were killed and others were injured.

Our correspondents in the Bakhtaran center have filed a report on the Islamic combatant's victorious operations in the western fronts which led to the Ba'thist mercenaries' shameful flight from residential quarters and [words indistinct] which will be broadcast tonight by the Vision of the Islamic Republic. This report shows how Saddam's forces were forced to withdraw from their positions under pressure by Islamic combatants.

IRAQI ARMY DESTROYED BUILDINGS IN MEHRAN

LD301808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports from Ilam that following Saddam's mercenaries' flight from the western regions of our country, the Ba'thist army destroyed the entire region's buildings while fleeing the city of Mehran. Apart from the Imam Zadeh Hassan building and a few civilian units used by the Saddamist personnel as resting places, all other buildings in Mehran and other villages, including the post of Rezabad, were completely destroyed.

The Central News Unit reports from Ilam that in continuing their aggression against our Islamic homeland the Ba'thist-Zionist Saddamist aircraft tried to violate Ilam's airspace today but were forced to flee by our vigilant air defense units. The Iraqi attempts occurred at 0545, 0622 and 0755 today.

KHAMENE'I BRIEFED ON 'CONSPIRATORS'' TRIAL

LD010730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 1 Jul 82

[Text] According to a report by the Central News Unit, Mr Reyshahri, president of the Islamic Revolution Courts of the Iranian Armed Forces, yesterday evening met and conferred with Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, our president.

In this meeting Mr Reyshahri submitted a report to the president on the activities of the Armed Forces' Revolution Court regarding the trial of conspirators involved in the recent coup plot.

ATOMIC ENERGY OFFICIAL ON BUSHEHR POWERPLANT

LD291203 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Text] The head of the atomic energy organization of Iran, who had visited France and Switzerland, took part in an interview with IRNA after returning to Tehran.

Concerning the results of his trip, he said: During this trip, as we expected, the local court passed a verdict in Iran's favor with regard to the problems of the Bushehr powerplant and according to this verdict 35,000 tons of equipment intended for the Bushehr atomic powerplant and half of the fuel needed by the plant as well as many parts and machinery will be put at Iran's disposal.

The head of the atomic energy organization added: If the Majlis decides that the atomic powerplant should be completed, the equipment and the machinery will be used in that plant. Anything not needed may be used in other projects.

Concerning the Eurodif company, he said: During the years before the Islamic revolution, Iran put $1 billion as a loan at the disposal of the French atomic energy commission and the Eurodif company is a part of the commission. In addition, he said, as our contribution, Iran has paid more than half a billion francs to the Eurodif company.

The head of the atomic energy organization then said: In my recent trip to Paris, I again asked about Iran's money and what they have done with it but they did not give us a clear answer. In spite of the verdict of the court of appeals in Paris, the aforementioned company has refused to comply with the verdict.